

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Clean Water Act. The Administrator has received a complete application for the modification of a groundwater discharge permit, NEV2002501, from the following applicant:

Solid Solutions, L.L.C.
214 Main Street, Suite 383
El Segundo, CA 90245

The Applicant proposes to increase the permitted biosolids daily maximum application rate from 100 cubic yards (yd³) to 300 yd³ and to increase the 30-day maximum application rate from 1,625 yd³ to 5,000 yd³. The Applicant has been permitted to land apply biosolids, processed sewage sludge, generated by the wastewater treatment plants of the City of Oceanside San Luis Rey and La Salina, the City of Riverside, and the Orange County Sanitation District Plants #1 and #2 to agricultural land in Amargosa Valley, Nye County, Nevada since May 21, 2003. On July 14, 2003, temporary permit TNEV2003384 authorized the Applicant to increase the biosolids application rate to the levels of the major modification through January 13, 2004. The biosolids are land applied to the farmed portion, approximately 700 acres, of the 1,360-acre Funeral Mountain Ranch. The biosolids application rate per acre shall be determined by the agronomic uptake rate of the crop to be planted in the application fields. To be eligible for land application, the biosolids must meet at least the Class B standards and pollutant concentration limits. The proposed permit modification will not extend the May 20, 2008 expiration date.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Clean Water Act, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue the modified permit to discharge, NEV2002501, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit modification or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty (30) days either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
333 West Nye Lane
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

Comments or objections must be received within the thirty (30) day comment period, which begins on the date of this publication. Comments and/or hearing requests postmarked or received via facsimile or e-mail before 5:00 PM October 24, 2003 will be considered in the formulation of final determination(s) regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by calling Bruce Holmgren of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9423, or at bholmgre@nedp.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. For further information, the fact sheet for this project can be viewed at the following website address: <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.